

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 688

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By Mrs. Owens-Hicks of Boston, petition of Shirley Owens-Hicks and others relative to the penalty for false charges in certain criminal complaints. The Judiciary.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### PETITION OF:

Shirley Owens-Hicks	Patricia D. Jehlen
Benjamin Swan	Christine E. Canavan
Anne M. Paulsen	Barbara A. L'Italien

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In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO FALSE CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1 Chapter 218 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
- 2 inserting after section 38 the following section:—
- 3 Section 38A. Any person found to have deliberately brought a
- 4 false charge in seeking a criminal complaint shall make restitution
- 5 to the person accused for any costs, lost wages and attorneys' fees
- 6 and may be punished by a fine of one hundred dollars or by
- 7 imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.